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Oladipo, Pacers crack Cavaliers' streak at 13

Sports, 1C

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2017
"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty" II COR. 3:17

IndyStar.

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CITY EDITION

Councilman to regain custody of son

Attorneys cite 'traumatic' foster care experience

Ryan Martin and James Briggs
Indianapolis Star
USA TODAY NETWORK

Jeff Miller

Jeff Miller will regain custody of his son while the Indianapolis councilman's molestation case moves through court.

The decision by Hendricks Superior Judge Mark A. Smith came after Miller's attorneys filed a motion to lift a no-contact order issued late last month.

Smith granted the defense's motion Friday afternoon.

Miller, 50, faces three level 4 felony counts of child molestation after being accused of fondling two young girls in his Fletcher Place home. Miller told investigators that he did not intend for his touching to be sexual, according to court documents.

Miller; one of his attorneys, Jennifer Lukemeyer; and the Marion County prosecutor's office declined requests for comment Friday.

After the no-contact order was issued, Miller's attorneys said Department of Child Services officials temporarily placed the boy in foster care. The attorneys described the experience as "traumatic" for the child.

Relatives then took custody of the son, the attorneys said.

At Miller's initial hearing Monday, his attorneys noted that Miller, whose wife has died, is the sole caregiver of the child. They also argued that Miller did not pose a danger and that Miller's son had not alleged any abuse in an interview with police.

Courtney Curtis, a Marion County deputy prosecutor on the case, suggested the court only grant DCS-supervised

See MILLER, Page 4A

USA TODAY NETWORK

CALIFORNIA FIRE RAGES

A firefighting helicopter working the Thomas Fire near Fillmore, Calif., on Thursday is dwarfed by smoke and flames.
DAVID MCNEW/GETTY IMAGES

Red-flag warning extended through Sunday; president declares emergency in state

Strong Santa Ana winds haven't taken a break since the Thomas Fire started near Santa Paula, California, on Monday.

On Friday, wind speeds were expected to average 15-30 mph, with gusts up to 45 mph, according to forecast information from the National Weather Service. By Friday evening, winds were expected to drop to about 15 mph. However, winds remain in the forecast through Saturday night, along with single-digit relative humidity and above-average temperatures, leading the National Weather Service to extend its red-flag fire warning for Ventura County through Sunday.

As of Friday, the fire was 10 percent contained. Also Friday, President Donald Trump approved an emergency declaration for California.

See Page 1B

"There's a lot of dead fuels up there. And when we have no fire history, that could be decades' worth of dead slash and trees and brush and everything."

Cal Fire Capt. John Clingingsmith
Assessing prospects for the Ojai Valley and La Conchita, which haven't had a history of fires

Firefighters battle a blaze Friday on the roof of the Beilouny Building, at 765 Mass Ave.
VIC RYCKAERT/INDYSTAR

Damage from Mass Ave. fire set at $750,000

Cause of rooftop fire as yet undetermined

Vic Ryckaert, Dwight Adams and Robert King
Indianapolis Star
USA TODAY NETWORK

A Mass Ave. condominium building sustained an estimated $750,000 in damage after a rooftop fire Friday morning sent residents fleeing into the cold and disrupted business along the busy commercial strip for half the day.

The roof of the 5-story Beilouny Building, a mixed-use structure at the V-shaped intersection of Massachusetts and College Avenues, erupted in flames just after 7 a.m. The fire cast an orange glow over the area as residents were starting their day. Soon, billows of smoke were visible for miles.

But firefighters, some stationed only a few blocks away, were on the scene within three minutes, extending ladders to the roof from two sides of the building. Within 30 minutes the fire was under control. By late morning firefighters

See FIRE, Page 4A

Video from slain officer's body camera to be closely held
Judge agrees with prosecutor's motion to restrict access to footage that shows the final moments of a Southport police officer. **3A**

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